

THE
SALVATION
OF THE
SOUL
Considered.

The NATURE of that Great
SALVATION declared ;

WITH
DIRECTIONS

for the Obtaining,

AND
INCENTIVES

to the Pursuing, of it.

In a brief ESSAY, designed
for a Disperſion by Hands at
Work for the Kingdom of GOD.

—LECTORIS de Vita, Animæque Salute,
Tractatur, —

BOSTON: Printed by B. Green.
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THE

Salvation of the Soul,

Considered in a brief ESSAY, prepared for the hands that are at work on the Designs of the *Common Salvation*.

MAY our *Gospellized People*, now give Attention, a just & strong Attention, to the most Important Matters, that ever any People had, or can have, Set before them. The Most-concerning, the All-concerning, Matters are Set before us, in those Words,

I. Pet. I. 2.

The END of your FAITH, the SALVATION of your SOULS.

EVERY Word is Ponderous; it weighs like the *Mountains of GOD*. The *Inspiration of the Almighty*, employs the Pen of an Apostle from Him, to Recommend unto us, a *Faith* in a Lovely JESUS; the *Faith* of what He will do for His Followers, at that *Second Coming* of His, which is to be looked for. In the Prosecution of this Intention, We are here treated with *Two Things*; First, An Incomparable *Blessedness*, for the obtaining of which every Man has cause to be unspeakably Sollicitous;

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An Inestimable Blessedness, which if thou Lose, O Man, What will it profit thee, if thou gain the whole World? This Blessedness is, The Salvation of the Soul. But then, Secondly; The Way wherein we are made Partakers of this Blessedness. T'wil be the End of our Faith; Our Way to it, is by a Genuine Faith in the JESUS, who alone can Lead us into the Rest which remains for the people of GOD.

That which I am in the most awakening Terms, to oblige your most Serious Thoughts upon, is This Faithful saying of GOD; Oh! Let it be counted worthy of all Acceptation with you!

The SALVATION of the SOUL, will be the END of a True FAITH in Our Glorious and Mighty, and Only SAVIOUR.

Seasonably & Effectually to make sure of a part in the Salvation, whereof the Blessed JESUS is the Author, to as many as obey Him; This, This is the Thing, which you are now with an Uncommon Importunity to be press'd unto. For, my Friends, Our SAVIOUR has instructed us, Tis not every one that shall be Saved; No, Tis not every one that pretends to own Him for a Lord, and makes a fair pretension to Religion, that shall be Saved. Multitudes, Multitudes, are they who perish, by a most Sottish Neglect of their GRAND INTEREST; And you have cause to Think upon a Question, which GOD now puts unto You, but which indeed all the Angels in Heaven

can

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can give no Answer to; That very Solemn Question, Heb. II. 3. *How shall we escape, if we Neglect so great Salvation!*

The first Thing that is now to be done, is to assert the *Existence* of the *Subject*, the *Wellfare* whereof we are now Entreating you to be wisely concerned about; And this is, The *SOUL*. This Assertion is to be introduced, as an Undoubted Preliminary; to what we are going upon; Job XXXII. 8. *There is a SPIRIT in Man.* A SPIRIT capable of Discerning and Arguing and Affecting: A SPIRIT which Reasons, and Compares, and Judges, and Chuses; A SPIRIT which a Man of Reason, when he feels himself a dying, does commit into the Hands of a Faithful Creator. O Man, Thou hast a *SOUL*, the *Existence* whereof ought to be how *Real*, and how *Awful*, to thee! Indeed, it might seem a Needless Labour, yea, and a Cutting Scurry, to take any Pains for the convincing of a Man, that he has a *Soul* within him. Should any Man Doubt whether he has a *SOUL* within him, his very Doubt would be an Evidence of it. So wondrously would that Man Confute himself, who should thus go to degrade himself into the class of the *Beasts that Perish*. It was the Ridiculous Mistake of the poor *Americans*, who when they first saw some *Europeans* on Horse back, took the Horse and his Rider to be but One Animal. But much more worthy to be Ridiculed, are the *Epicureans* who take not the *Body* and the *Soul*, for very Different Substances. My Friend, Thy *Body* is but a Cabinet unto a *Jewel*, the most precious

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in the World ; A SOUL, A SOUL which has many Inconteltible Demonſtrations (beſides thoſe of well-attesteſt *Appariitions*,) of its *Immortality*. A SOUL which is capable of *Doing* more for G O D, and of *Taſting* more from Him, than all the Creatures in the whole Viſible Creation. A SOUL, whereof a SAVIOUR who has been *Powerfully* declared, The S O N of G O D ; and the *True Witneſs*, who *delivereth Souls* ; has declared unto us, Matth. X. 28. *It cannot be killed, by that which Kills the Body.* A Text, which the *Men of corrupt minds*, who are for that Scandalous Epitaph on a Dead Man, *Here lies the whole of the Man*, in vain Study to make Eviſions from. That SOUL of thine, O Man, When will thine Ears be open unto the Cries which it makes unto thee ? Verily, There is the *Voice of G O D* crying to Every Man, in the cry which his own SOUL makes unto him. ' When, O Man, wilt thou *ſhem thy ſelf a Man* ? Thy *Dying Body* is abundantly cared for. When ſhall the SOUL, that is to Survive the *Body*, have a due care beſtow'd upon it ? Thy *Body* is fed ; But thy SOUL is famiſh'd. Thy *Body* is cloath'd ; But thy SOUL is naked. The Diſtempers of thy *Body*, thou ſeekeſt a cure for. Thy SOUL is *pining away in its Iniquities*. Thy *Body* is falling and haſt'ning down into the *Pit of Corruption*. Oh ! what Provision haſt thou made, that thy SOUL may be then *Receiv'd into Everlaſting Habitations* ?

The *Subject* is then agreed upon ; The next thing

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thing to be done, is to prevail with you, that you would pursue the *Welfare* of this Noble Subject; A point which, One would think, should now need no further to be spoken to. Do but Remember, O Man, That thou hast a SOUL, and thou canst not but Acknowledge; that it must be, *The ONE THING* that is Needful, to Consult the Welfare of it. But that this Design may be well pursued, we will Maintain Two Positions.

My First POSITION is; The SALVATION of the SOUL, is to be the Grand Point of Sollicitude, with all that are going down to the Dust, whereof none can keep alive his own Soul. But now, What is implied, what is contain'd, in, *The Salvation of the Soul*? SALVATION! O comprehensive Word! O Incomprehensible Good! SOUL, 'Tis beyond all that thou canst Ask or Think!

First; In the *Salvation of the Soul*, there is a Deliverance from all the Miseries to which by our Fall from GOD, we are become Obnoxious; all the Miserable Circumstances of those whom GOD counteth for His Enemies. The doleful Outcry of all Mankind, may be That, Lam. V. 16. *The crown is fallen from our Head, and wo is unto us, in that we have Sinned.* Soul, T'wil be thy Outcry, whenever the Sleep of Death upon thee, is going off. The Apostasy from GOD, begun by our First Parents, has plunged us all into a woful Condition. The Soul, involved in the Sin of our First Parents, and having by Actual Sin also Denied the GOD that is Above, may make its Bitter Lamentati-

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ons. 'O wretched One that I am ! I have the
 ' *Wrath of G O D* abiding of me : and His dire-
 ' ful *Curse* is dispensed unto me, even in my
 ' *Prosperity*, as well as my *Adversity*. I am
 ' *Sick of Greivous Diseases*. I am a *Slave* to
 ' *Sa'an*, and I *serve diverse Lusts*. When I am
 ' driven out of this *Tabernacle*, I am like to
 ' fall into the *Hands* which it is a *fearful thing*
 ' to fall into. There is danger that my Re-
 ' turn unto it at a tremendous *Day of Judg-*
 ' *ment*, will be only to undergo a *Strange*
 ' *Punishment reserved for the workers of Iniquity*.
 ' And Oh ! What will become of me, when
 ' This *Earth* shall become like a *Fiery Oven*,
 ' and as a mighty, flaming, blazing *Furnace*,
 ' which all the *Wicked of the Earth* shall be
 ' thrown into ! O *Soul* in wondrous *Perils*,
 To be *Rescued* from all this *Confusion*, is
 that *Salvation*, which is now set before thee,
 in the *Word of Truth*, which is the *Gospel of thy*
Salvation.

But then, Secondly ; There is in the *Salva-*
tion of the Soul, a *Positive Good*, conveyed ;
 All the *Good* which is promised unto the *Fear*
 of *G O D* : and, Oh ! *How Great is that Good*,
 which *G O D* has laid up for them that *Fear*
Him ! The *Salvation* which we have in our
View, is in the *Sacred Oracles* which describe it
 unto us, called, *Life Eternal*. The *Thing* of
 which we are often and often informed in the
Holy Book, which none but an *Holy G O D*,
 and *One who cannot Lye*, can be the *Author* of,
 is That ; 1 Joh. II. 25. *This is the promise that*
He has promised us, Eternal Life. Herein, first,
 there

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there is a *Sentence of Life* passed upon us, and our *Sin* is *Pardoned*. In our *Pardon*, *G O D* restores us to His *Favour*, and in His *Favour* there is *Life*. There is a *Justification of Life*, wherein a Gracious *G O D* says unto us, *The Lord hath put away thy sin ; Thou shalt not Dy :* Says unto us, *Be comforted, Thy Sins are forgiven thee.* Herein there is that thing done for us ; *Rom. V. 19. We receive the Gift of Righteousness, and reign in Life by J E S U S C H R I S T.* In the *Salvation of the Soul*, there is a *Release* given to the *Soul*, from the *Bonds* to suffer the *Destruction from G O D*, which His *Violated Law* lays upon the *Sinner* ; and the *Soul* may Sing, *Lord, I will praise thee ; for that tho' thou wast Angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou dost comfort me.*

But then, *Secondly ;* There is an *Entrance into Life* ; which is made by our coming to *Live unto G O D*. We are *Quickned* with *Influences from Above*, which *Enliven* us, and *Enable* us to pay those *Regards* unto the *Living G O D*, which we have heretofore paid unto our *Idols*. We have that *Life of G O D* begun in us, wherein the *Praising and Pleasing of G O D*, becomes the *Main Scope* of our *Life* ; *Self* is dethroned, and *G O D* resumes His *Throne* in our *Souls*. We terminate our *Loves* and *Hopes* and *Foyes*, no longer in *Creatures*, but pass from them and through them unto *G O D*. We *Dy* to *Creatures*, and *Live* unto *G O D*. And it is with us according to *That ; Rom. VIII. 2. The Law of the spirit*

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spirit of Life in **CHRIST JESUS** hath made me free from the Law of Sin and of Death. The salvation of the soul does Relieve and Remove the Maladies which the **SOUL** is deprav'd withal, and fill the soul with the Love of **GOD**, and of the Neighbour.

And now,

Thirdly; The Life Eternal, which had its Inchoation in This World, has its Consummation in another and a better World, after our Departure out of This. And here first, There shall be that Word accomplished, Rom. VIII. 10. If **CHRIST** be in you, the Body is dead, because of Sin, but the Spirit is Life, because of Righteousness. Our spirits will, at our Expiration, fly away, into a Paradise, where they Live unto **GOD** and are Comforted. But then, anon shall be that Word accomplished, 1 Cor. XV. 53 This corruptible must put on incorruption; This mortal must put on immortality. The Salvation of the soul, will prove the salvation of the Body too. 'Tis observable, That the salvation of the soul, is to be received at the Appearing of the Lord; even when He shall come to Raise the Dead and Judge the World. The soul will not be in all circumstances as it would be, till that Great Revolution. We shall then have our Bodies fetch'd back from the dark Chambers of Death, and given back to our Spirits, fill'd with an Ethereal matter, and made Luminous and Vigorous, and Salsed, or made Incorruptible with the Piery Robe, whereof we were Stripped by the First Transgression. Our Life being Redeemed from Destruction, at the Resur-

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rection of the Dead, our Youth will be Renewed, and we shall have Bodies, wherein we shall mount up as with the Wings of Eagles. Then we shall be sheltered under the Wings of the JESUS, who Delivers from the Wrath to come; find with Him a shelter from the Devouring Fire, and the Everlasting Burnings, which they that Know not GOD, and Obey not His Gospel, shall be doom'd unto. Then, Then we shall be taken into the Holy City, which has the Glory of GOD giving Light unto it. There we shall have all Tears wiped away from our Eyes. There we shall be Filled with all the Fulness of GOD. There GOD will become All in All unto us. But, O the Duration of this Felicity! An Eternal salvation! After we have been in that Life of Glory and Honour and Immortality, for Thousands of Myriads of Millions of Ages, and such as it would even tire all humane Understanding to cast up the Numbers of, we shall be no nearer the Period of it, than the First Moment that we came into it.

Behold, the SALVATION of the Soul, which we do with Vehemency now urge you to be Vehemently concerned about: A SALVATION which certainly you cannot but own to be well worth all the Pains that can be taken for it. O go to Work about the salvation with Fear and Trembling, lest by presumptuous and contemptuous Delays you provoke the GOD, who Works in us to will and to do of His own good pleasure, to withhold from you those Aids of Supernatural Grace, without which, you will continue as you are, and fall short of

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of entering into Rest. SOUL, Delay no longer ; but hearken to

My Second Position which is, There is a Blessed SAVIOUR, a *Faith* in whom will, for the *End* of it, have the *Salvation of the Soul*. Men and Brethren, You are now coming to *Know the way to the City*. 'Tis after this manner, that the *Servants of the most High GOD* must *shew unto you the way of Salvation*.

First, We have a most powerful and most merciful SAVIOUR, whose Name is JESUS because *He saves His People from their sins*. In our Blessed JESUS, has our GOD fulfilled that Word unto us, *He will send them a SAVIOUR, and a GREAT ONE*. Messengers from Heaven have made this Proclamation unto us, Luke II. 10. *I bring you good Tidings of Great Joy, which shall be to all People ; unto you there is born a SAVIOUR, who is CHRIST the Lord*. O wonderful ! O wonderful ! The Eternal SON of GOD, a Person who is ONE GOD with His Eternal FATHER, has taken the Man JESUS into One Person with Himself. This GOD man, is become the *Mediator* between GOD and *Man*, and gives to *Man* a view of Returning to GOD. By His *Mediation* it is, that His chosen People arrive to the *salvation of the Soul*. That this our SAVIOUR Died, and Rose from the Dead, and was Received up into the *Heavens* ; this is a Thing whercof we have many *Infallible Proofs*. 'Tis a Thing that has been better proved, than any *matter of Fact*, that ever was in the

World

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World. There needs no more to prove, than He is the SAVIOUR, which His Gospel has Reported Him to be, and that what He has Revealed in His Gospel about the Salvation of the Soul, is to be relied upon. This is the SAVIOUR, who presents Himself a Sacrifice to the Justice of GOD, upon our pleading whereof we receive the Remission of sins. This is the SAVIOUR, who by His Obedience to the Everlasting Rules of Righteousness, has furnished them who have none of their own, with a Plea for their Acceptance with GOD. This is that SAVIOUR, who appears as an Advocate for us in the most holy Place, and saves us to the uttermost, by Everliving to make Intercession for us. Here is the SAVIOUR who Guides our Feet into the way of Peace, and Inclines us to the Things that are Holy and Just and Good, and Works in us that which is well pleasing in the sight of GOD. Here is the SAVIOUR, who being the Lord of Angels, and having all power given to Him, orders our whole State, and performs the Thing that is appointed for us. In Him we have a SAVIOUR, who having made us meet for the Spiritual Blessings in the Heavenly places, does first of all take our Departed Spirits into His Custody; and by'nd by, Revive our Bodies into Agreeable and Everlasting Habitations for them; And so, Re unite us unto GOD, in the endless enjoyment of Him, and of all things in Him. A SAVIOUR, who is very GOD; One whose Name is JEHOVAH; One who is Over-all, GOD Blessed for ever: And
because

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because He is GOD *Almighty* therefore *mighty* to save. Because He is JEHOVAH therefore *Salvation* is to be expected from Him; He is the *True GOD*; therefore *Eternal Life* is to be found in Him. Oh! what a SAVIOUR! Soul, How canst thou hear of Him, and not Adore Him, not Embrace Him, not cry out unto Him; O my Lord, and my GOD; Say thou to my Soul, I am thy Salvation!

Secondly, Our Great SAVIOUR in His Gospel tenders the *Salvation of the Soul*, to every Soul. Our SAVIOUR, Lo, He sends forth His Voice, and that a *mighty Voice*; and it reaches to the Ends of the Earth: Shall not the very Dead now feel it reaching to them; and Live upon it? Isa. XLV. 22. Look unto me and be ye saved, all the ends of the Earth. What is the Gospel, but the *Salvation of the Soul* tendered unto Every Soul of Man, that has done Evil, and would be saved from Evil? Now concerning this Gospel, our SAVIOUR has given this Commission, Go ye into all the World, and Preach the Gospel to every Creature. There is not one among all the Children of Men, to whom it may not be said, Ah, Sinful Creature; Ah, Ruin'd Creature. There is a JESUS, able and willing to save thee, out of all the Ruins, which by sinning against GOD thou hast brought upon thee! Soul, What a Sweet Invitation has thy SAVIOUR given thee? Come to me, all you that Labour and are heavy-laden, and I will give you Rest! What a Sweet Invitation; Ho, every one that thirsteth,

come

come ye to the waters : Come unto me, Hear, and your soul shall live ! To overcome thy Unbelief, O Invited Soul, He has kindly Spoken a word worth a World : A Word which has broken Millions of Hearts : And shall Thine be Obdurate ! Joh. VI. 37. *Him that cometh unto me, I will in no wise cast out.* Soul, Be thy Sins never so many, never so heinous, and be thy Plagues never so wonderful, thou shalt yet be welcome to thy SAVIOUR, if thou come unto Him : His Grace is a Fountain Set Open for thee. Tho' thy case appear never so desperate, yet there is Hope in Israel concerning this Thing. Thy Salvation may not be despaired of. I will be a crime in thee, to conclude, That the Day of Grace is over with thee, or that thou hast Sinned Unpardonably.

Thirdly. But the Salvation of the Soul cannot be had, without Believing in the Glorious and Mighty, and only SAVIOUR. The Greatest CASE that ever was answered in the World, hear now what Answer is to be given unto it. The CASE has been propounded, and, Oh ! that it were oftener so, and with a Soul full of Troubles, — Even this, *What shall I do so be Saved ?* The Reply given to it, by the Apostles of GOD, is a very Authentick one ; Act. XVI. 31. *Believe on the Lord JESUS CHRIST, and thou shalt be Saved.* FAITH is the Flight of a Distressed Soul, unto our Blessed SAVIOUR. The End of this Faith and Flight is, The Salvation of the Soul. 'Tis the End which Faith

does *Aim* at ; and the *End* which *Faith* does *Come* at. Our SAVIOUR has given us This Definition of the *Faith* which seeks and finds the *Salvation of the soul* ; Joh. V. 40. 'Tis a *Coming to Him, that we may have Life*. The process of a *Saving Faith* shall be now Set before you. SOUL, Be Restless, till thou hast passed through it, and made sure of thy salvation.

First. Become sensible of what you are, and how much you want *Salvation*, while you are at a Distance from your SAVIOUR. To the *Christless*, must be said, what we have in Rev. III. 17. *Thou art wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked*. O Fall into an Heart-melting Meditation ; ' What am I but a *Child of Wrath*, and a *Prey to the Terrible*, and full of a lothsome *Leprosy* ? ' Until my SAVIOUR *Pitty* me ? Where must my *Portion* be, but in a *Place of Torments* ? Except my SAVIOUR *Pitty* me ? ' O my SAVIOUR, *Necessity* is laid upon me, ' to come unto thee, and *Wo* unto me, if I do it not ! But under the *Convictions* of this *Necessity*, at the same time confess your selves *Unable* to come unto your SAVIOUR, yea, and *Unworthy* that GOD should help you to come. Let the *Sovereign Grace*, that shines forth in *Drawing* to your SAVIOUR, all that come unto Him, have a due *Confession* made of it. *From the Depths* cry unto the Lord : and say, Lord, *I can Perform nothing*, Lord, *I do Deserve nothing* ; But, O my SAVIOUR, *Draw* thou me, and I shall *Run* unto thee.

Secondly

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Secondly. Look for no less than the whole *Salvation of the Soul*, in Looking to your SAVIOUR. You must come to your SAVIOUR in all His Offices; come to your SAVIOUR for all His Benefits; come to your SAVIOUR, on all those Purposes; 1 Cor. I. 30. Made of GOD unto us, Wisdom, Righteousness, Holiness, and Redemption. If your first Errand unto your SAVIOUR be, That by His Blood you may be cleansed from all Sin; yet this must not be all your Errand. You must go to Him, That He would Instruct you, Govern you, Rectify all that is amiss in you, and bring you to a Perfection of Holiness in the Fear of GOD. It is by coming into the Covenant of Grace, that our Salvation is assured unto us: Even that Covenant, which is the Echo to that Covenant of Redemption, wherein our SAVIOUR has Engaged for us, and Eternal Life was promised before the World began. We come into the Covenant of Grace, by consenting that our SAVIOUR should be to us, do for us, according to His Engagements in the Covenant of Redemption, on the behalf of them, whom in His Covenant He becomes an Head unto. Our SAVIOUR has Promised for His Elect, That He will make that Expiation for their Offences, which will bring them into a Reconciliation with GOD. Say now, O my SAVIOUR, I trust in Thee so to Save me! Our SAVIOUR has also Promised for His Elect, That He will Purify them, and make them zealous of Good Works, and write

the Law of GOD in their Hearts; and guide them with Counsil, and bring them to Glory. Say now, O my SAVIOUR, I trust in Thee so so Save me.

You see Faith at Work, for the Salvation of the Soul. The Expression leads me to insist upon that: It must be a *Working Faith*; else, O *Pain Man*, 'Tis Dead, and will never bring thee to Life.

Wherefore,

Thirdly; Your Faith must *Work by Love*. It must fill you with the Love of your SAVIOUR. This Love must keep you always at Work for Him, and in the work which belongs to a Life of PIETY: Still Remember that He says unto you, *I know thy works*. You must come to that; Gal. II. 20. *I Live by the Faith of the Son of GOD*. Repair to your SAVIOUR for His Direction in Every thing, and Order the Steps of your Life by His Word. Repair to your SAVIOUR for those Impressions of His Good Spirit, which will make you full of Goodness, and make the Service of GOD, the Business of your Life. Repair to your SAVIOUR, with fervent Prayers to Him, and with precious Thoughts of Him, on all Occasions; and make Him the Rock, whereto you will Resort continually. Repent most heartily of the Sins which have brought you into such a want of a SAVIOUR; and lead a Life of Repentance before Him. Faith and Repentance are what GOD has joined, Man may not separate them. If your Faith be not a Repenting Faith, be sure, it is

a Counterfeit, Let your SAVIOUR be the Pattern of your Life; and walk even as he walked. Faith in your SAVIOUR, must bring the Blood of your SAVIOUR, to run warm in the Veins of your Souls; with Desires and Studies of a Conformity to Him. You must Imitate a SAVIOUR who *hates Wickedness and loves Righteousness*. Imitate a SAVIOUR, whose *Meat and whole Drink* it was to do the will of GOD. Imitate a SAVIOUR who took patiently whatever Cup His Father gave unto Him; and was a Sheep under the shearers when wrongs were done unto Him; and who went about still every where doing Good. Let your SAVIOUR Live in you; and Oh! Do you Dye to every thing but Him: Look upon all things here, with a Sacrificing Eye, and bear the killing things with which your SAVIOUR will make you Dead unto the World, Crucified with Him. Having so Liv'd by Faith, anon you are to Dye in Faith, and committing your selves into the hands of such a SAVIOUR, go away Rejoicing in the Hope of the Glory of GOD. Now Dye saying, O my SAVIOUR, I know whom I have believed; I chearfully commit my All unto thee.

This 'tis to Believe unto the saving of the Soul!

Thus have you, the Way to the Salvation of the Soul plainly laid out before you. Now what remains is to execute that Command, *Compel them to come in*. The Compelling Force of some EXPOSTULATIONS, is now to be tried upon you. Hear a few Right Words, and GOD make them Forcible.

Expostulation, I. Are you willing to undergo the dreadful pains, that must unavoidably be undergone by those with whom the *Salvation of the Soul* is Despised, Refused, Forfeited? Believe you not, That God will bring every Man, and every work into Judgment? Believe you not, That the *Everlasting Punishment*, which the *Wicked* shall be adjudg'd unto, will be a most *Formidable Punishment*? Believe you not, That a *Soul*, which has been always listed among the *Adversaries of GOD*, shall be seized with His *Fiery Indignation*, and banished from Him into a most hideous *Darkness*, where they will be shut up and cannot come forth? In the *Perdition of Ungodly Men*, foretold by the mouth of your SAVIOUR, is there nothing to be trembled at? Will the *Ungodly* have an easy Time of it, when they are Broken into the *Place of Dragons*, and made *Fellow-Sufferers* with the *Devils* whom they have hearken'd to? Have we not known some in this *World*; unto whom the *Horrors* and the *Tortures of a Guilty Conscience* have been so *Intolerable*, that they have cried out, of *Burning to Death*, but as a *Metaphor*, to what they suffered? Can thy *Heart* endure, or can thy hands be strong, when I shall deal with thee, saith the Lord?

Expostulation, II. In Receiving the *Salvation of the Soul*, will you not receive what will be a sufficient *Recompence* of all your striving for it? Even in this *Life*, did ever any sincere *Follower* of our SAVIOUR, once regret the

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the Labours and the Hardships of the Christian Warfare? Have they not all born this Testimony, *That the ways of Wisdom are pleasant ways, and all its paths are peace; and the most bitter thing in a walk with GOD is much sweeter than the Sweetest thing in the Tents of wickedness?* But in the Life to Come, Oh! What will be done for the Soul, to which an Infinite GOD shall multiply the Tokens of His Loving kindness? Verily He will do it as a GOD! Are any Pleasures comparable to those which you shall find in the Presence of GOD, in which there is Fulness of Joy? Are any Riches comparable to those, in which you shall be Heirs of GOD, and Inherit all things? Are any Honours comparable to those that you shall have in a Royal Priesthood unto GOD? Such a Prize before you, how can you do otherwise than use all your strength, and this with all the speed imaginable, for the obtaining of it?

Exposition, III. If you felt your selves in the pangs of Death, what would be your Dying Sentiments? How will the Salvation of the Soul appear unto you, in your Dying Sentiments? Whatever you may think while you have the Amusements and Enchantments of the World befooling of you, will not the Thoughts of a Dying Hour determine you to This? If a Dying Hour were at this Moment upon you, would you not say, *The Salvation of my Soul, Oh! There is nothing in this World of so much Consequence unto me. Oh! I would give all this World, that I had it assured unto me!* Oh!

Oh! That instead of throwing away so much of my Time in this World, I had spent more, in the assuring if it! So do the Dying Think; Oh! that the Living would lay this to Heart; and not be misled by madness in their Heart, while they live.

Expostulation, IV. What would you do, if a Message from GOD should this Day come unto you; like what He sent unto One of old; Set all in order, for thou art now to Dye, and not to Live one Month longer upon the Earth? What if the Angel of Death should appear unto you, and Swear by Him who lives for ever and ever, Thy end is come; and no longer Time than one Month more shall be allowed unto thee? What would you now do for the Salvation of a Soul, just passing into the Eternal World? Would you not immediately Retire, and cry to the GOD of all Grace, That He would Assist you to Return unto Him? Would you not recall and bewail the Sins, which upon Examination you find you can be charged withal? Would you not beg with Tears, that for the sake of the Blood of JESUS, your Sins which are many may be forgiven to you? Would you not give your selves up unto your SAVIOUR, and entreat that His Holy Spirit may possess you, and heal all that is amiss in you, and make you meet for the Inheritance of the Saints in Light? Would you not be unpacified, until the Things that accompany Salvation, were plainly to be seen upon you? Then, go do these Things without any more ado. Be-

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hold. NOW is the Day of Salvation for them.

Expostulation, V. Suffer me a little, and I will shew you that I have yet Words for GOD, and for the Salvation of your SOULS. That Evangelical Ministry, which does Preach the Gospel of Peace, and bring the Glad Tidings of Good Things in the Great Salvation; ought not such a Ministry to be Beautiful in your Eyes? Can any but the Enemy of your Salvation persuade you that the World can do well enough without such a Ministry? Or, when its Clothed with salvation, and there is nothing but the Care of Salvation to be seen upon it, is not your Enemy at work in all the Contempt that shall be cast upon it? Are any Men so much Maligned, Slandered, Reproached in the World, as they who do most for the salvation of SOULS, and who after all, triumph in the Reproach as an Honour to them, and as a Revenge that Satan is taking on them? Will you listen to Satan, and be his Agents? Or, Do they befriend the salvation of SOULS, who go to insinuate an opinion into you, That our Ministry is Invalid, and can do nothing for your Salvation, because our Ordination is defective? A most profane insinuation! What! when the Scriptures have so evidently asserted, the Validity of an Ordination by the Hands of the Presbytery; and informed us of no Order in the Church Superiour to it; but Presbyters are expressly called Bishops there, [Acts XX. 17, 18.] When among the Faithful in all

all Ages from the Days of the *Primitive Church* down to ours, there has been such a *Cloud of Witnesses* unto it! And when it will be hard for you to find any *Protestant Churches* on the whole *Continent of Europe*, which do not subsist upon an *Ordination*, from an *Order* not *Superiour* to that of our *Pastors*! O our *Evangelized People*, 'Tis the *Substantial PIETY* of, *GOD* *Reigning* in the *SOUL*, that we *Preach*, for your *Salvation*. To *Trouble* you with *Circumstantial* in *Religion*, will be of little use to your *Salvation*. I conclude with saying, *1 Cor. XII. 2. You are saved, if you keep in Remembrance what I have Preached unto you.*



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